



TOWN OF ELLINGTON

55 MAIN STREET • P.O. BOX 187
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187

BOARD OF FINANCE

ROBERT J. CLEMENTS
Chairman

BUDGET DELIBERATIONS TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2008

RICHARD J. CLEARY
MARK A. JOYSE
BARRY C. PINTO
MICHAEL D. VARNEY
JOSEPH E. WEHR

BOARD OF FINANCE MEMBERS PRESENT: Robert Clements-Chmn, Richard Cleary, Mark Joyse, Barry Pinto, Michael Varney, Joseph Wehr

OTHERS PRESENT: N. DiCorleto-Fin Officer, Selectmen Turner, Charter, and Miller; P. Michaud-DPW Dir, A. Littizzio-BOE Dir Bus Svs, M. Contakis-Budget Advisory, P. Hany-Pres. EVAC, A. Lawrence-Fire Marshal, D. Davis-Dir. Emer. Mgmt.

Chairman Robert Clements opened the deliberations at 8:05 pm.

Citizen's Forum – none

Chairman Robert Clements went over some increases in revenues.
CRRA Class Action \$242,969; Crystal Lake Stormceptors Grant \$11,000; DOT Speed Enforcement Grant \$10,703; Social Services Aging \$8,450; Town Clerk Conveyance \$106,653; Marshall E. Charter Fund \$23,000. Total increased revenue of \$402,775.

Operating Expenses Reductions/(Additions): Police increase due to grants (10,703); Sanitary Landfill Tipping Fee \$22,424; Senior Center Secretary addition (3,450); Capital NRC \$250,000. Total Expense reductions of \$258,271 leaves a reduction to budget of \$661,046. This leaves 1/10 of a mill to bring to zero increase in budget.

The Board members then went through the capital expenditures items.

Road Construction – no comments

Building Construction – Old Crystal Lake Schoolhouse renovation. Mr. Joyse felt it was not a big need. Mr. Charter spoke about the overcrowding of the Human Services Dept and suggested that the P&R office could be put at that location. Mr. Clements felt the project should be done as there is no facility for people in the Crystal Lake area. He feels if it is built they will use it. Several others agreed with him and it was decided to fund it.

Animal Control Facility – There was not much support for this project. Emergency Management Director, Don Davis stated that the State passed a law that if people need to be housed in emergency shelters; their animals need to be housed also. He felt that although this is not an emergency need, if the town has the funds to do it, this would be a good year. Mr. Miller stated that this needs to be a future goal for the town.

Fireproof Vault at the Town Hall – agreement that this is a need.

TH addition rear vestibule – Mr. Clements stated that this is also an addition to the Assessor's Office. There was not much support for this project and it was decided to remove it.

Repairs - Painting at Town Hall would be done. Mr. Michaud stated that it is done with a rubberized paint to hold the moisture. This would be done using funds from the Marshal Charter Fund.

Miscellaneous - TH Emergency Power System – it was decided to do this item but to take it out of the bonding column.

Sidewalks – Agreed to leave in.

Windermere Boiler Dual Burner and EMS Dual Oil Burners – These two items were agreed to be left in as needed.

Girl's Softball Field – Leave in.

Equipment Purchases - EVFD Pumper. Mr. Varney stated that the pumper has a 20-year life. There are several lease options that the town can go with: 5-yr interest of 4.48% with a payment of \$202,635/year, 10 year interest of 4.52% with a payment of \$112,560/year and 12 year interest of 4.55% with a payment of \$97,900. Mr. Joyse and Mr. Miller both agreed that the shortest repayment would be best so that another need doesn't come up before these are paid for.

Preemptive System – The Emergency Services Committee has suggested that the other emergency services vehicles could be fitted with the equipment to respond to the traffic lights. This would be one for Crystal Lake, two for the ambulance corps and one for the suburban. This would cost \$1,400 per unit or an additional cost of \$5,800. It was agreed to add it to this line item which would now total \$55,800.

Open Space – Mr. Clements suggested deleting the \$250,000 for this item as the money in the bond approval could be used and there is \$573,123 in the fund presently. Mr. Joyse and Mr. Miller defended the item and stated they feel that the Town needs to build up to an amount that could be used to purchase large tracts of land if needed. They stated that the bond issue was for Farm Land Preservation which is restrictive. Mr. Miller stated that the taxpayers are committed to open space and the Town should respond likewise. It was agreed to leave it in and revisit it on Thursday.

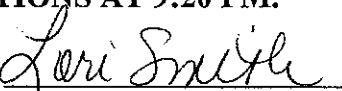
At present and taking out the TH vestibule and the animal control building, leaves a net amount in capital improvements of \$1,627,636.

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Adjournment

**MOTION (CLEARY) SECONDED (JOYSE) AND PASSED TO ADJOURN THE
DELIBERATIONS AT 9:20 PM.**

Submitted by


Lori Smith, Clerk